

# TRIBUTARY



Water Education and Conservation Newsletter

Spring 2002

## Utah Water Conservation Website

[www.conservewater.utah.gov](http://www.conservewater.utah.gov)

The Utah Division of Water Resources (DWRe) is proud to announce the launch of their new water conservation website.

The website is a public education tool designed by DWRe as a supplement to Governor Mike Leavitt's water conservation initiative.

The Utah Water Conservation Team, made up of the directors of the state's largest water agencies, water districts, and various environmental and commercial groups, was formed in August of 2001 by Leavitt, and launched a state-wide media campaign urging the efficient use of Utah's water.

With the continuing drought this year, the DWRe has been commissioned to create a water conservation website to complement this year's campaign.

The website includes tools and tips for Utah's citizens on how to conserve our most precious resource. Both indoor and outdoor water conservation are addressed, however the main emphasis lies on outdoor irrigation efficiency.

Issues ranging from leak detection to specific sprinkler zone irrigation requirements are included, bringing a wide range of water conservation ideas and opportunities to the general public.



Utah Water Conservation Website

A simplified watering guide is also provided, giving a recommended watering schedule based on the time on year.

Because the focus of this year's media campaign concentrates more on the "how to's" of water conservation, this website is meant to be very educational, as well as interactive and fun.

Future additions to the page will be a resources page for water retailers where there will be water conservation materials, bill stuffers, and other information available for download.

Contact Molly Waters at (801) 538-7254 or [nrwres.mwaters@state.us.us](mailto:nrwres.mwaters@state.us.us) for more information.

## Current Standing of the Water Education Program

*By Rick Webster, Water Education Coordinator*

As the Water Education Coordinator I have been busy with many projects. The Waters of Utah van is almost complete. This van will travel to 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms and present students with a hands-on lesson about the water cycle and water use in Utah. The Living Planet Aquarium operates the van.

The Young Artists Poster Contest teacher's packet is being prepared to be sent to the printer. This will enable us to send out the teacher's packet by the end of July.

Other projects and events are:

- ✓ an Earth Day celebration at Hogle Zoo on April 20<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Park City Water fair on April 23<sup>rd</sup>



- ✓ Ongoing conservation education for civic and religious groups, and
- ✓ Richfield Natural Resource Days from April 25<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>

Any questions or comments are welcome at (801) 538-7299 or [nwres.rwebster@state.ut.us](mailto:nwres.rwebster@state.ut.us).

## FACTOID

### *Useful Utah Water Knowledge*

Did you know that less than 1% of drinking water is actually used for drinking? The rest is used in the bathroom and to water our lawns. Use your treated drinking water wisely!

## Calendar of Events

### **Earth Day at Hogle Zoo**

April 20<sup>th</sup> – Salt Lake City

### **Natural Resources Day**

April 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> – Richfield

### **The Spring Affair**

May 11<sup>th</sup> – Washington Square, SLC

### **Garden Fair Day and Garden Park Open House**

June 8<sup>th</sup> – Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District

### **Water Pricing and Conservation Planning Workshops**

TBA

## Conservation Tips

### *Outdoor Water Use*

It's that time of year again, when we begin to focus on our landscapes. Because this is the fourth year of a drought, we should be extra cautious with our outside watering. Here are some tips to help you save water outdoors:

- Inspect your sprinkler system once a month during daylight hours. Check and fix any tilted, clogged or broken heads.
- Avoid watering your landscape during the hottest hours of the day (10 am until 6 pm) to minimize evaporation.
- Water your lawn only when it needs it. If you leave footprints on the grass, it is usually time to water.
- Add more days between irrigations. Allowing your lawn to dry out between irrigations promotes deeper roots, making your lawn healthier all around.
- Test soil moisture with a soil probe or screwdriver before you water. If the soil is moist, don't water!
- Turn back your automatic timers in the spring and fall when temperatures are cooler.



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